



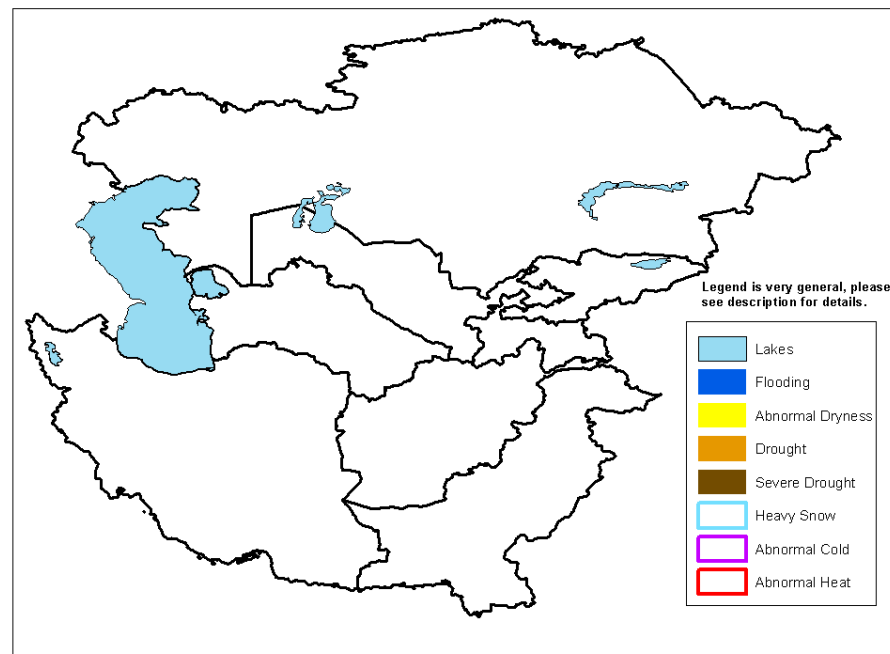
Climate Prediction Center's Central Asia Hazards Outlook March 20 – March 26, 2014

Temperatures:

Temperatures, during the first dekad of March, were above-average (1-4 degrees C) across northern Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, and lower elevations in Afghanistan. Meanwhile, temperatures were below-average (1-4 degrees C) in southern Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan and higher elevations in central and northern Afghanistan. During the past week, positive temperature departures up to 6 degrees C were observed across northern Central Asia while temperatures were around average farther south. During the next week, maximum temperatures are expected to be above 0 degrees C across all of Central Asia except for the highest elevations of Afghanistan and Tajikistan. Minimum temperatures are forecast to be below -10 degrees C in northern Kazakhstan, northern Afghanistan and Tajikistan.

Precipitation

During the past week, moderate to heavy precipitation (10-40mm) was observed across much of western and northern Afghanistan, southern Turkmenistan, southern Uzbekistan and western Tajikistan. Most of the precipitation fell as rain except across higher elevations in central Afghanistan and Tajikistan where temperatures were colder. The above-average weekly precipitation helped to reduce long-term precipitation deficits and continued to increase snow water volume across northern Afghanistan. During the next week, moderate precipitation (5-30mm) is forecast for northern Afghanistan and Tajikistan as well as across central/northern Kazakhstan. Precipitation will likely fall as snow across the highest elevations of Afghanistan/Tajikistan and in northern Kazakhstan. Rain is likely elsewhere. The precipitation will help further reduce long-term precipitation deficits.



Note: The Hazards outlook map is based on current weather/climate information, short and medium range weather forecasts (up to 1 week), and assesses their potential impact on crop and pasture conditions. Shaded polygons are added in areas where anomalous conditions have been observed. The boundaries of these polygons are only approximate at this continental scale. This product does not reflect long range seasonal climate forecasts or indicate current or projected food security conditions.